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CONFERENCE OF HEALTH AUTHORITIES.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES WITH THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE TO BE HELD IN BOSTON IN JUNE, 1921.

'The Nineteenth Annual Conference of State and Territorial Health Authorities with the United States Public Health Service will be held in Boston, Mass., June 3 and 4, 1921, in Room 437, State House Building. In a letter recently sent out by Surg. Gen. Cumming to the State and Territorial health officers, it was urged that each State be represented by an official delegate, as important State and national public health matters will be brought before the conference for action.

It was especially pointed out that sanitary engineers should attend this conference, as questions of signal interest relating to sanitary engineering, including the certification policy for water supplies used by all common carriers for drinking and culinary purposes in interstate traffic, will be considered at this time. A number of Public Health Service sanitary engineers will be present to confer with the State engineers in regard to these matters. At the conference in 1920 the attendance of sanitary engineers from 23 States was an unusual feature of the meeting.

The conference will open at 10 a. m. on June 3.

A DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR AUSTRALIA.

Falling in line with Great Britain, Canada, and the Union of South Africa, the Federal Executive Council of Australia has approved the establishment of a department of health for the Commonwealth (effective Mar. 7, 1921). The House of Commons of the Dominion of Canada passed a bill in 1919 (assented to June 6), creating a Federal department of health. The act creating the English Ministry of Health went into effect July 1, 1919, and during the same year the Union of South Africa established a department of public health.

The new department of health of Australia will have charge of the administration of the quarantine act; will deal generally with investigations regarding all manner of diseases and with the establishment and control of laboratories; will control the Australian Institute of Tropical Medicine; and will deal with infectious diseases among discharged members of the Australian Imperial forces.